

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly cancel claim 6, and rewrite Claims 2 and 3 as follows:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A stent matching an inner shape of a tubular living-body tissue of a patient, said stent having been formed by the steps of:

(a) obtaining inner shape-information regarding a tubular living-body tissue of a patient to be treated,

(b) using said inner shape information to form a three dimensional master, having an inner surface or outer surface with a shape substantially similar to the inner shape of the tubular living-body tissue of the patient to be treated,

(c) wrapping the outer surface of the master with wire having a shape memorization property, [[and]]

(d) memorizing the shape of said master to said wire wrapped around the outer surface of the master by heating said wire, and

[[(d)]] (e) treating said wire to affect shape-memorization thereof.

3. (Currently amended) A method of manufacturing a stent matching an inner shape of a tubular living-body tissue of a patient to be treated, comprising the steps of:

obtaining inner shape information regarding the tubular living-body tissue of the patient to be treated by using a mechanical method;

forming a master in accordance with the shape information so that the master has a three dimensional inner surface or outer surface substantially similar to the inner shape of the tubular living-body tissue; and

wrapping the outer surface of the master with wires having shape-memorization property to weave the stent; and

performing shape memorization upon the wire by heating said wire wrapped around said master.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the inner shape of a tubular living-body tissue is determined using either roentogen, ultrasonic tomography, computer tomography, or magnetic resonance imaging.

5. (Previously Presented) The stent of claim 2, wherein the inner shape of a tubular living-body tissue is determined using either roentogen, ultrasonic tomography, computer tomography, or magnetic resonance imaging.

6. (Canceled)

Kindly add new claims 7-16 as follows:

7. (New) A method of manufacturing a stent matching an inner shape of a tubular living-body tissue of a patient to be treated, comprising the steps of:

obtaining inner shape information regarding the tubular living-body tissue of the patient to be treated by using a mechanical method;

forming a master in accordance with the shape information so that the master has a three dimensional inner surface or outer surface substantially similar to the inner shape of the tubular living-body tissue;

wrapping the outer surface of the master with one or more shape-memorizing circumferential wires;

arranging a plurality of shape-memorizing vertical wires parallel to the master, and connecting said vertical wires to the circumferential wires so as to maintain the position of the circumferential wires relative to the master, thus forming a stent comprising the shape-memorizing circumferential wires and shape-memorizing vertical wires;

placing a removable belt-wire around said stent, and

tightening said belt-wire so as to tightly wrap said stent around said master;

performing a shape-memorization process upon said stent by heating said stent, wherein said stent obtains a memorized shape; and

removing said removable belt-wire from around said stent, and detaching said stent from the outer surface of the master, so as to form a stent capable of returning to the memorized shape after alteration in shape.

8. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said shape memorization process is carried out by maintaining said stent in a vacuum-heating furnace.

9. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said shape memorization process is carried out by maintaining said stent in a vacuum-heating furnace at a pressure range of from 10^{-2} to 10^{-3} Pa.

10. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said shape memorization process is carried out by heating said stent at a temperature of from 400°C to 550°C.

11. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said shape memorization process is carried out for 30 minutes.

12. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said shape memorization process is carried out for 60 minutes.

13. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said shape

memorization process is carried out within a pressure of from 10^{-2} to 10^{-3} Pa, within a temperature range of from 400°C to 550°C, and for a time period of 30 to 60 minutes.

14. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the master is formed from a ferrous metal or a synthetic resin capable of enduring the heating of the shape-memorization process.

15. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein the stent is formed from a wire made from a shape-memorizing alloy of Ni-Ti, said alloy comprising 56.06% by weight of Ni.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein the wire has a diameter of 0.4 mm.